

MEDICAL IMPACT SIERRA LEONE

MONTHLY RESULTS REPORT

OCTOBER 2024



OCTOBER, 2024 REPORT

INTRODUCTION

Effort of multiple stakeholders (MISL, Local Council and DHMT) who came together with the sole purpose of overhauling the health sector in the PortLoko District entirety held meeting, which deliberations are action driven blueprints that clearly set out implementable, goal oriented activities for a unified, cohesive and efficient health care system. The expected outcomes in the Strategic Plan for 2024/25 targeted by MISL, ensure a comprehensive response to identified barriers in the District's health care delivery system and prospects.

MISL remain committed to providing stewardship to the National Health Care delivery, working closely with the provincial members of the DHMT and District Councils to deliver quality healthcare to all Sierra Leoneans committed to improve their lives

Success in MISL activities relies on solid partnerships among all key players. The Ministry of Health and Sanitation (MoHS) Units such as Malaria Control Program NMCP), Emergency program Immunization (EPI), Health Agencies etc.

The monthly health implementation activities conducted, is meant to seek notification and approval for partnership with PortLoko DHMT and Local Council on the bases of setting the platform for the next project implementation, 2025

The District baseline survey is intended to be carried within 3rd and 4th week of November, 2024, which exercise gauge progress on outcomes and impact by measuring status of prevention and control of STIs, Malaria and TB. The plan protocol has also been reviewed locally by the executive.

The October implementation was designed to broaden the coverage of the core health care interventions defined in the 2024 end of project contract, and the MISL Strategic Plan help the executive assess current implementation strategies.

The MISL October, 2024 looked at:

-September review meeting

-Develop Baseline Survey Questionnaire draft, MISL 2025 strategic plan documentation and 1st draft submission of project proposal to Medical Impact Mexico.

-Monthly Health Intervention

The virtual event on seeking permission and maintaining protocol compliance for health interventions in PortLoko District like previous being a follow up trip was held on Tuesday 22nd, October, 2024. Representatives of PortLoko District Council and District Health Management Team (DHMT) had an opportunity to share ideas, concept and learn lessons.

Addressing the attendees, Mr. Allieu Badara Sesay MISL Country Manager disclose the purpose of MISL travelling all the way to Port Loko District and engage such key stakeholders in the District. In his statement, he briefed the meeting on the outcome of last engagement in December, 2023 and proceeded to the plans of MISL in 2025 as implementing partner. He however, requested for permission to conduct a baseline survey which will guide the planning and implementation.



During the engagement of DHMT of Portloko

Dr. Idris M Kamara District Medical Officer (DMO) gave a brief background of PortLoko District revealed/pointed at its location in the North-West of Sierra Leone and covers an area of about 13 chiefdoms and its bordering districts. Kambia District sin the north and the Western Urban borders it to the west and south East.

Swamps provide ideal breeding places for the Anopheles vectors of malaria. Moreover, the coastal line has several mangrove swamps, which provide the breeding sites for Anopheles mosquitoes, which is one of the major vectors of malaria.

The most acute form of poverty, insufficient food, is concentrated mainly in rural areas. About 68 percent of the population cannot afford enough food to eat.

The majority of people in PortLoko District outside Freetown do not attain their minimum health needs, he continued/lamented.

A poor and undernourished population is more susceptible to various diseases. Thus, rising maternal and child mortality rates, increasing rates of illiteracy, and rising unemployment levels characterize the living conditions in many parts of the district.

Against this background, the Port Loko DHMT highly welcome our health initiatives and compliance with protocols as implementing partner in health that want to successfully sail through in the district, especially when at present very scant Implementing partners in the health are in operation.



Group photo after the first session

District Health Sister 1 (DHS) gave a brief background in Malaria status.

Malaria is endemic in Sierra Leone, with stable and perennial transmission in all parts of the district. As such, the entire population is at risk of developing the disease. The presence of MISL in the district as implementing partners with a driven focus on Malaria, HIV/AIDS and TB is a haul mark which Services will be indirectly measured.

The National Malaria Control Programme (NMCP), under the Directorate of Disease Prevention and Control (DPC), is mandated to manage all malaria control efforts in the country.

The guiding document for malaria control is the National Malaria Control Programme Strategic Plan 2016 – 2025. This strategy informs all interventions and sets national targets based on established indicators. She however advised MISL to align their project activities with NMCP 2025 strategic plan. Partners are expected to supporting the implementation of these initiatives which will lead to an increase in public health facilities' attendance, especially for children under age 5.

RESPONSES:

The Medical Impact Mexico supports the Government of Sierra Leone through Medical Impact Sierra Leone (MISL) in efforts to fight AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria, assured by Project Manager II MISL in response to DHMT contributions. Late October, MISL will successfully submit a proposal to the Parent Medical Impact Mexico to support MISL interventions in the next contract December, 2024 for one year duration.

MISL main activities include: Strengthening information systems related to malaria medicine and commodities; community behavior change communication; mass-media communication; and major research studies.

The activities are meant to be implemented by Medical Impact Sierra Leone in partnership with the MoHS, in particular with the NMCP, EPI, HIV/Aids Secretariat, National TB Control Program, as well as through recipients. The specific responsibilities of the various stakeholders will be indicated and followed to fingertip.

The overall goal of the new project proposal is to achieve the malaria strategic Plan by 2015, not only by national aggregate, but also among the poorest groups across Sierra Leone.

This will be reached by focusing on key objectives listed below, all contributing to the goal and objectives of the National Malaria Strategic Plan of 2025:

- Increase the coverage of prompt and effective treatment of malaria,
- Increase and maintain the proportion of pregnant women receiving preventive treatment during pregnancy
- Increase the percent proportion of the population that takes appropriate action to prevent and treat malaria through Information Education Communication; Behavior Change Communication by 2025.

The key objectives of the November, baseline survey are to:

- Assess coverage of the preventive treatment for malaria, HIV/AIDS and TB
- Identify treatment practices, challenges and prospects in health delivery.

The engagement ended successfully with thanks and appreciation done by Madam Mariam Fullah MISL Communication Officer. This was followed by:

- Presentation of certificate of the Service Level Agreement, and Certificate of Corporate and
- Photo snapshots.



MISL official presentation of the Service Level Agreement to Dr. Idris M. Kamara the District Medical Officer (DMO) of Portloko.



MISL team moving around to see some of the health facilities in Portloko District

GLOBAL HAND WASHING DAY

Global Hand Washing Week/Day was graced on the 15th October, 2024 at Cambridge High School, Fourah Bay Road, Freetown. Responding to the request letter tendered to MISL dated 16th September, 2024, MISL resolve aiding and supporting the school in promoting school safety, a policy Ministry of Basic and Senior Secondary School (MBSSE) recently adopted in the advent of Free Quality Education. School Safety is a core component of quality education.

Global Hand Washing Day coincide with Cambridge High School's Founder's Day 15th October. The events were conducted in collaboration with the school Alumni supporting the success of the 15th Anniversary. Participation of MISL was climax by Hand Hygiene demonstration, talks on the importance of the World Hand Wash Day and Impact on the safety of not only the school going pupils but equally so the staff, market/Cafeteria staff, families and the immediate school community members.

The Country Manager addressed the participants on the establishment, Mission and health interventions successfully achieved over the years, its plans to support community schools and the less privileged on meeting people's health needs.



The Health expert Mr. Abdul Bangura delivered talk on School, home hygiene and environmental sanitation. Health settings of various kinds and unsafe areas were mentioned. Children were given the opportunity to identify unsafe areas, sort preventive measures, ask questions and listen to the expert responses.



To this end assorted hygiene supplies were handed over to the proprietor and principal on behalf of the administration to a the worth of Le 7,000 (\$308.16)





The principal of Cambridge High School making a thank you message to MISL and the parent body in Mexico after receiving the assorted hygiene supplies donated by Medical Impact Sierra Leone.

The school head expressed thanks and appreciation for the timely intervention especial on health which impact students and staff longevity.

The Alumni similarly but in extension promised to work with MISL in collaboration as volunteers. The engagement came to a close gracefully.

Activity	Direct beneficiary	Indirect Beneficiary	Total Beneficiary	Location
Global Hand Washing Day	20	103	123	Western Area Urban
Engagement with Portloko DHMT	283	1,400	1,683	Portloko

Direct Beneficiary: 303

Indirect Beneficiary: 1,503

